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THRU :Chief, D/S
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25X1A2g

11 March 1958

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The requested evaluation of [REDACTED] follows:

1. Organization of the report could have been bettered. For example, the subject of Soviet Aid Projects is discussed under the final section "Economic Trends in Communist China" where logically it should fall under "Industrial Capital Construction," 30 odd pages earlier.
2. "Feeding, clothing, and productive employment" for the population are briefly discussed (page 4) but nowhere is there even a scant mention of one of the most serious problems confronting the Chinese--the construction of new housing. Shelter is certainly as important as clothing or productive employment. Housing construction is allotted roughly 7-10 percent of total capital investment by the Chinese but not one line by A/F---surprising omission of a crucial consideration.
3. The spelling of certain place names is confusing. Why is the spelling of Wuhan and Anshan compressed and that of Pao-t'ou dilated?
4. On page 37 in speaking of chemical fertilizer investments, the annual production capacity of the 8 plants in question (actually only 6 are now; Dairen and Nanking are expansion projects) should be 1.8 million tons of nitrogenous fertilizer instead of 1.1 million tons.
5. III, Section E. "Large vs. Small Industrial Units" is a particularly sound treatment of this subject.
6. Table 17, p.104, mixes non-productive and non-industrial categories. Total non-productive investment is given as 8.1 billion yuan--it was actually 11 billion yuan.

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SUBJECT: CIA/RR IP-556

7. A table portraying quantitative construction achievements (various types of railroad and highway kilometrage, square meters of general construction, cubic meters of water conservancy, etc) may have given the reader more insight into economic growth than some of the other tables used.

8. In summary, S/CST feels this contribution to OME by A/F is considerably better than previous ones. Although the synthesis achieved could be improved--some of the writing appears to be paste-pot and scissors versions of the Chinese original--the coverage is adequate and the grasp on major problems, sure. With a more concentrated focus, the paper would make an excellent RR.

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Distribution:

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1 - D/S

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OFR/S/CST: [REDACTED]; rw/4597 (13 Mar 1958)

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